

What is claimed is:

1. A method for controlling access to a network by a wireless client, the method comprising: assigning a network address to the wireless client, wherein the network address has a lease period; sending the assigned network address to the wireless client; sending the address of a wireless access point to the wireless client, wherein the wireless access point is adapted to provide access to the network for the wireless client; and, if the wireless client fails to establish a secure link with the wireless access point and request a renewal of the assigned address via the secure link within the lease period, invalidating the assigned network address, thereby preventing the wireless client from accessing the network.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein the assigned network address and the wireless access point address are sent to the wireless client in a DHCP offer packet.

3. The method of claim 1, wherein the secure link is an IPSEC tunnel.

4. The method of claim 1, wherein the assigned network address is sent to the wireless client via the wireless access point.

5. The method of claim 1, wherein the address of the wireless access point that is sent to the wireless client comprises an IP address and a MAC address.

6. A computer-readable medium having stored thereon computer-executable instructions for performing the method of claim 1.

7. A computer-readable medium having stored thereon computer-executable instructions for performing the method of claim 2.

8. A computer-readable medium having stored thereon computer-executable instructions for performing the method of claim 3.

9. A method for controlling access to a network by a wireless client, the wireless client using a network address having a lease period to communicate with the network, the method comprising: engaging in a negotiation of a secure link with the wireless client; communicating with an address server of the network to determine whether the lease period of the leased network address has expired; and, if the lease period is determined to be expired, terminating the negotiation, thereby preventing the wireless client from accessing the network.

10. The method of claim 9, wherein the negotiation is a negotiation of an IPSEC tunnel.

11. The method of claim 9, wherein the address server is a DHCP server.

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21. On a wireless client, a method for gaining access to a network, the method comprising: broadcasting a request for an address on the network; receiving an assignment of a leased address from the network, the leased address having a lease time; and negotiating a secure link with the network before the lease time expires.

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27. A computer-readable medium having stored thereon computer-executable instructions for performing the method of claim 22.

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